(57) Abstract

According to the proposed method, the frequency of power control commands transmitted on a power control channel is changed according to the traffic. When the traffic becomes slower in at least one direction due to a DTX state, a slower transfer rate, asymmetric data transfer or for any other reason, the frequency of power control commands is lowered. Both the base station and the personal station may lower the frequency of the commands which they send. An alternative to changing the frequency of power control commands is to change the energy of power control bits. The duration of power control bits must hereby be extended, if a standard bit error ratio is desired. If the system is frequency-divided and/or time-divided and uses frequency control command of several bits, the length of the command word may be shortened in addition to or as an alternative to the change in frequency. The power control algorithm may be changed several times during a traffic connection.

(Fig. 8)